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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR 23 February 1955

SUBJECT Road, Bridges over the Oder and Neisse Rivers

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
LISTED BELOW

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DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The road bridge over the Oder River of the Schwedt -
- Nieder-Kraenig highway is being rebuilt by the Poles. In early
October 1954, the foundations for the new bridge were under
construction. Rows of piles, about 2 meters apart, have been
across the river. The piles are to support a narrow-gauge field railroad
track which is to be used for the construction of the bridge piers. 1

2. The new road bridge over the Neisse River at Guben is completed except
for the railing. Construction workers said that the bridge was
scheduled to be opened to traffic on 1 November 1954. The old Neisse
bridge, which was about 500 meters east of the new bridge site, is
still unreconstructed. 2

3. In mid-October 1954, the last span of the Autobahn bridge over the
Oder River near Frankfurt/Oder was completed. The supports for the
roadway will still have to be built in three spans. The Autobahn
bridge is scheduled to be completed by late 1954. It was originally
planned to have a second bridge constructed so as to have separate
bridges available for westbound and eastbound traffic. After the
first caissons for the second bridge had been sunk, construction
work had to be suspended without warning, probably because of a cut
in the budget available for road construction work. 3 and 4

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1. Comment. A total of six bridges over the Oder and Neisse Rivers
have been rebuilt. (See plane table sheet, Germany, scale 1:25,000,
sheet 2951 (Schwedt)). For latest report on the status of these road
bridges, Comment. The bridge at Schwedt is the easternmost
of the six bridges mentioned. All these road bridges over the Oder and
Neisse Rivers except for the Autobahn bridge at Frankfurt/Oder are
being reconstructed under Polish supervision. 25X1

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2. Comment. Work on the road bridge over the Neisse River at Guben
was started in March 1953. It therefore appears possible that it was
actually completed by 1 November 1954. 25X1

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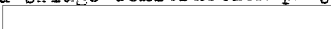

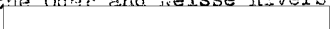
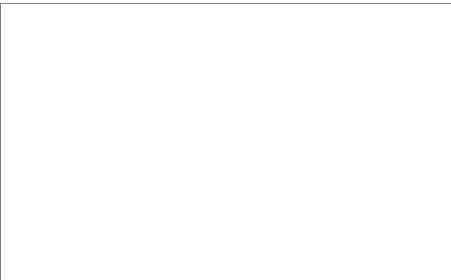
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3.  Comment. The Autobahn bridge at Frankfurt/Oder was included in the 1954 road bridge construction project. For latest report on this project,  The first bridge with one lane is scheduled to be completed by early 1955. The construction of a second bridge for the second lane is also planned. These plans have, however, not materialized. The sinking of caissons mentioned by source was probably not connected with intended construction work for a second bridge.
4.  Comment. It has been pointed out previously that the reconstruction of road bridges over the Oder and Neisse Rivers was ordered for military reasons.  These bridges are scheduled to be opened to traffic in 1955. Observations made so far indicate that the bridges will be completed according to schedule.
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